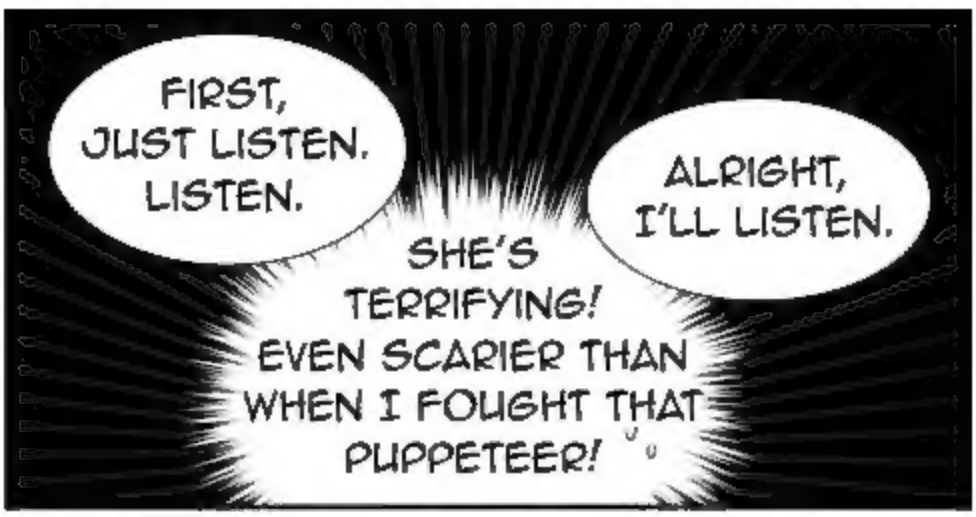
THE GAMER

STORY BY SANGYOUNG SEONG
ILLUST BY SANG-A

<MY FATHER TOLD ME,
"DO NOT GET INVOLVED WITH WOMEN.">

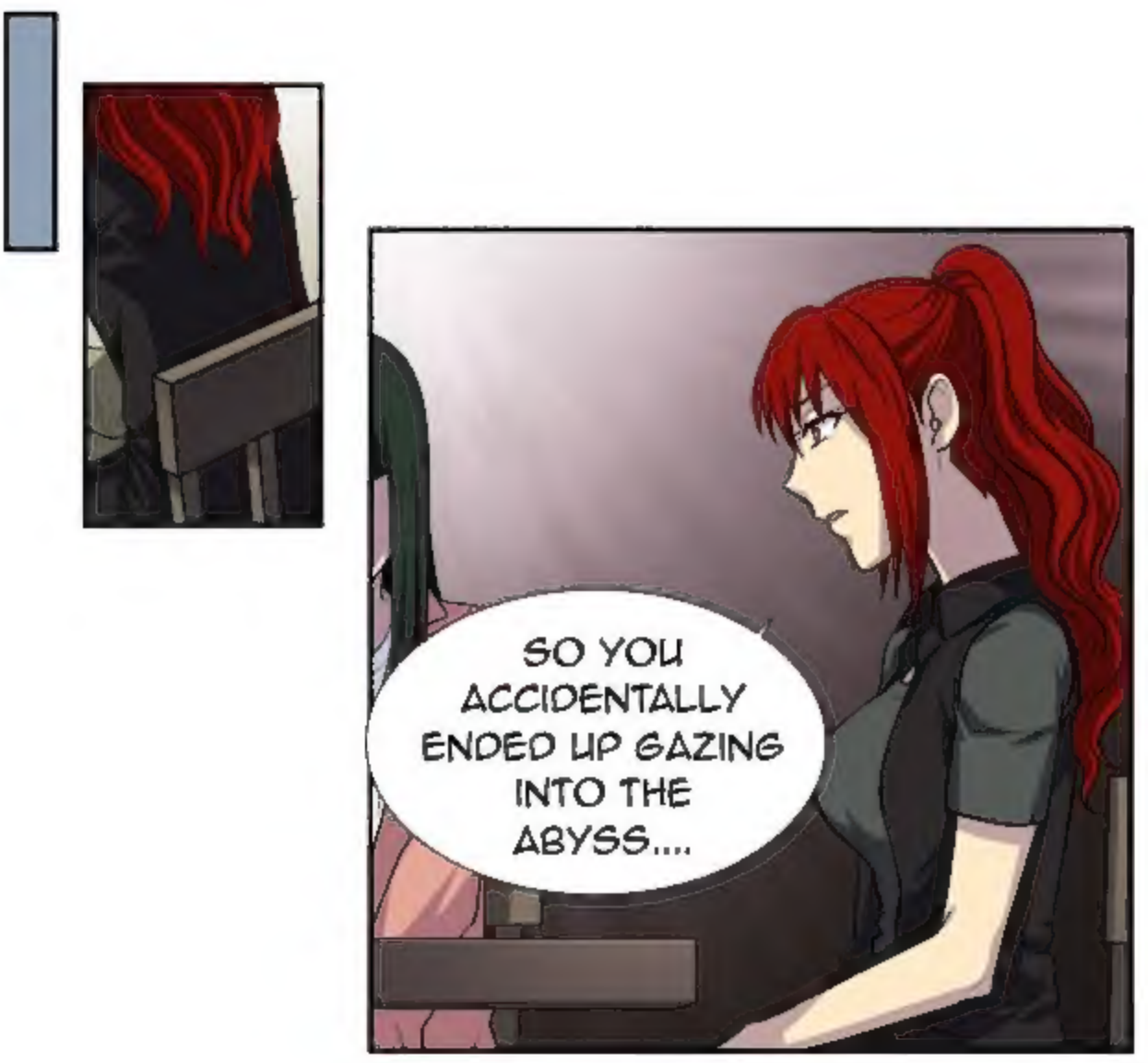

FIRST, JUST LISTEN. LISTEN.
ALRIGHT, I'LL LISTEN.
SHE'S TERRIFYING! EVEN SCARIER THAN WHEN I FOUGHT THAT PUPPETEER!

SMACK!
I NEVER KISSED HER. OUR LIPS JUST TOUCHED SLIGHTLY.
AND I DIDN'T DO IT. SHE DID IT ON HER OWN.

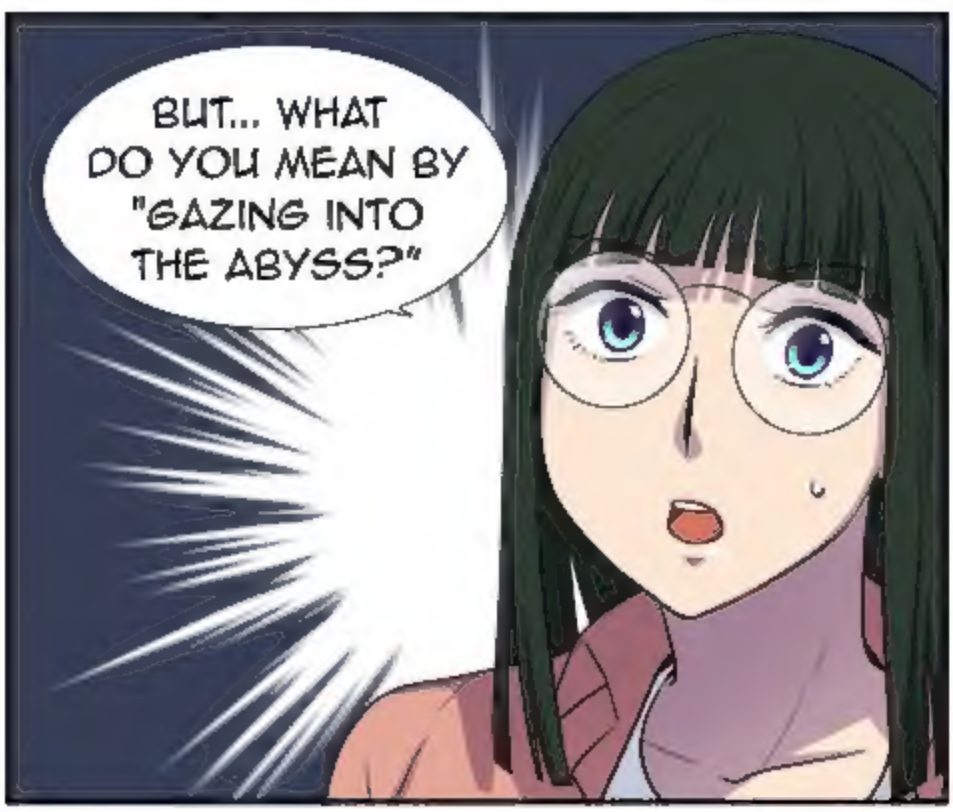
SHIYEON, IS THAT TRUE?
IT'S TRUE THAT THE WOMAN STARTED IT FIRST.

HE'S GOT TALENT.
DEFINITELY. HE'S TALENTED IN THAT AREA.
GUUUYS! WHY ARE YOU SLANDERING ME LIKE THIS?!

SO, WHAT WERE YOU GUYS TALKING ABOUT?
AH, RIGHT...
WHEN DID YOU TWO BECOME SO CLOSE?


SO YOU ACCIDENTALLY ENDED UP GAZING INTO THE ABYSS....

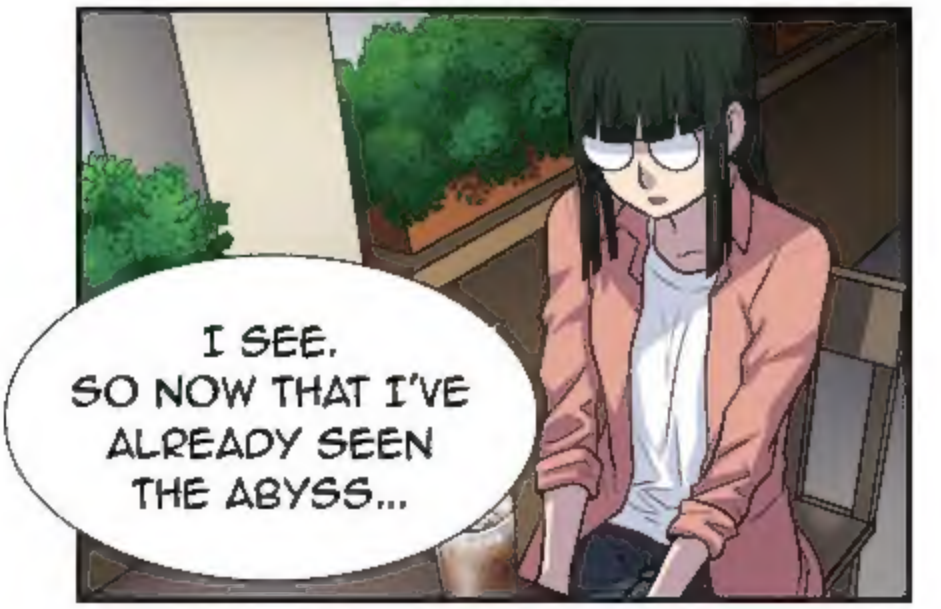
FIRST OF ALL, I'LL OFFER YOU MY WORDS OF CONSOLATION.

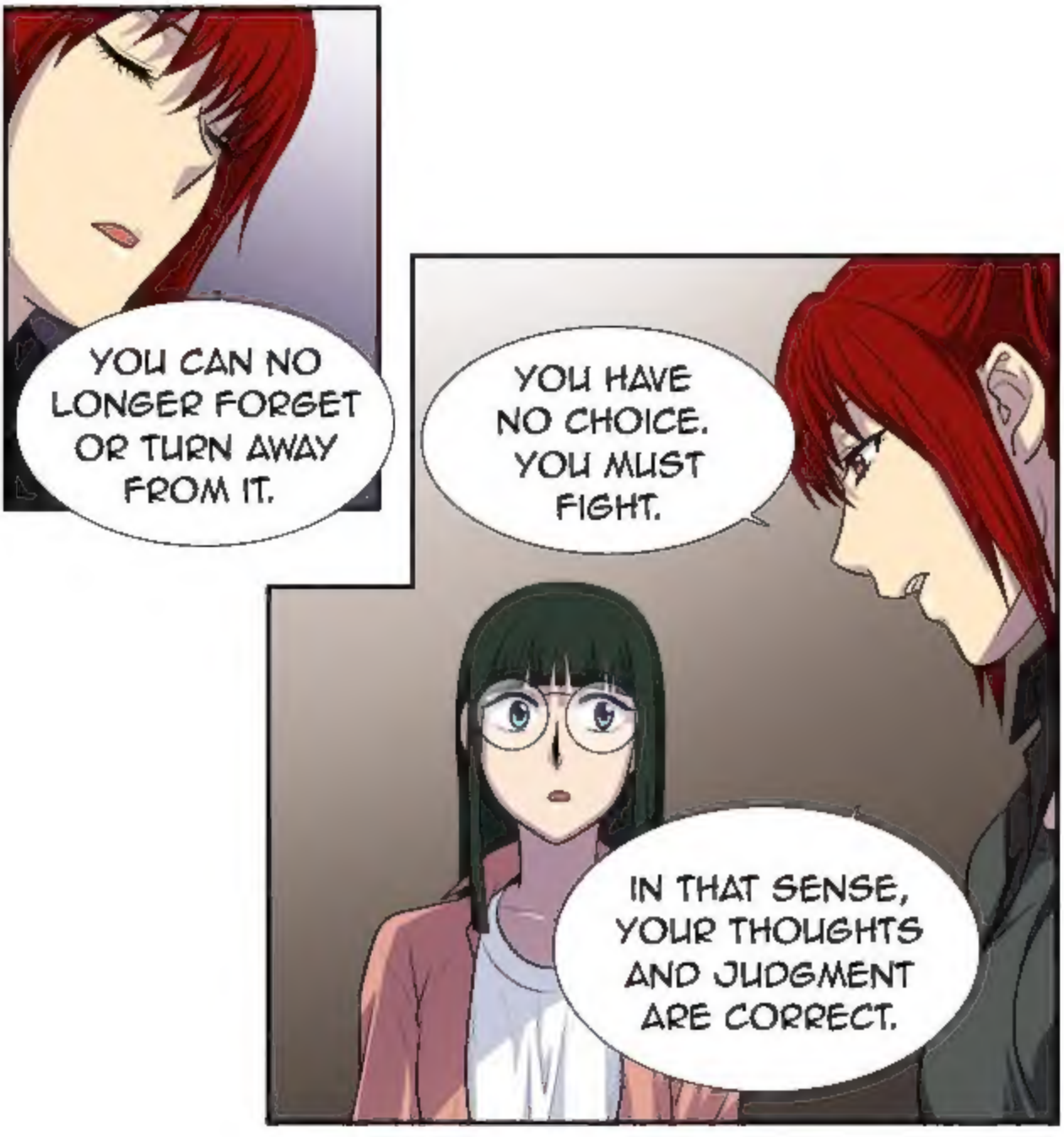

BUT... WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY "GAZING INTO THE ABYSS?"

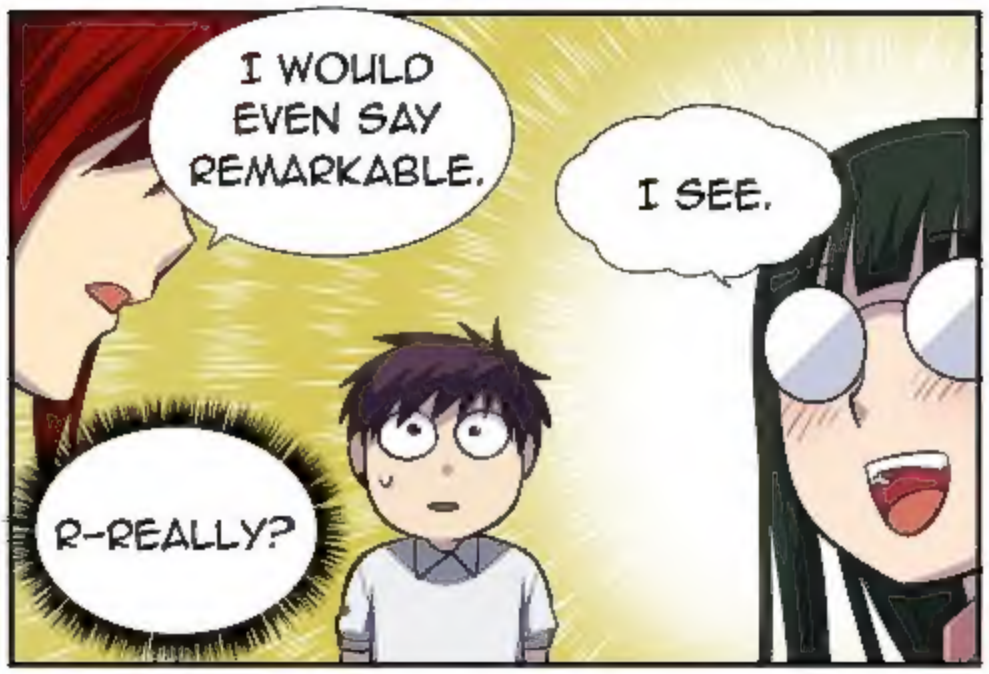
THE SHADOW WORLD HAS BEEN CALLED THE ABYSS FOR A VERY LONG TIME.
THAT'S WHAT WE USUALLY SAY WHEN PEOPLE COME INTO CONTACT WITH THE ABYSS.

GAZING INTO THE ABYSS....

WHEN YOU GAZE INTO THE ABYSS, THE ABYSS ALSO GAZES INTO YOU - SAID NIETZSCHE.
I JUST SAID THAT A MINUTE AGO. I DIDN'T THINK SHIYEON WOULD SAY SOMETHING SIMILAR TO IT.


I SEE. SO NOW THAT I'VE ALREADY SEEN THE ABYSS...


YOU CAN NO LONGER FORGET OR TURN AWAY FROM IT.
YOU HAVE NO CHOICE. YOU MUST FIGHT.
IN THAT SENSE, YOUR THOUGHTS AND JUDGMENT ARE CORRECT.


I WOULD EVEN SAY REMARKABLE.
I SEE.
R-REALLY?

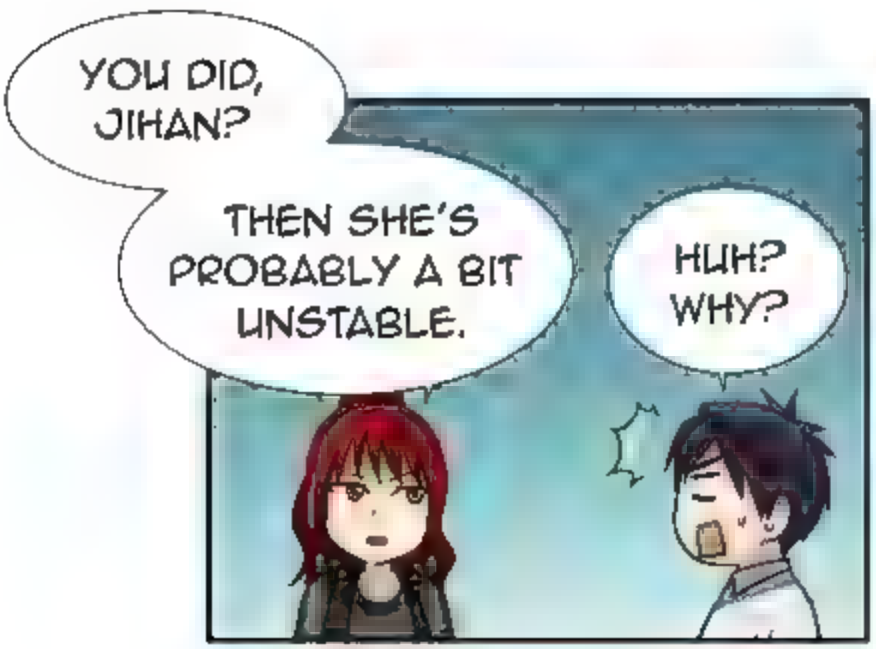
I WAS RIGHT...

THANK YOU, SHIYEON, FOR SAYING THAT.
I SIMPLY STATED THE TRUTH.

SINCE JIHAN IS STILL A BEGINNER IN THE ABYSS, HE'S NOT MATURE ENOUGH TO GIVE YOU PROPER ADVICE.
SORRY FOR BEING A NOOB.

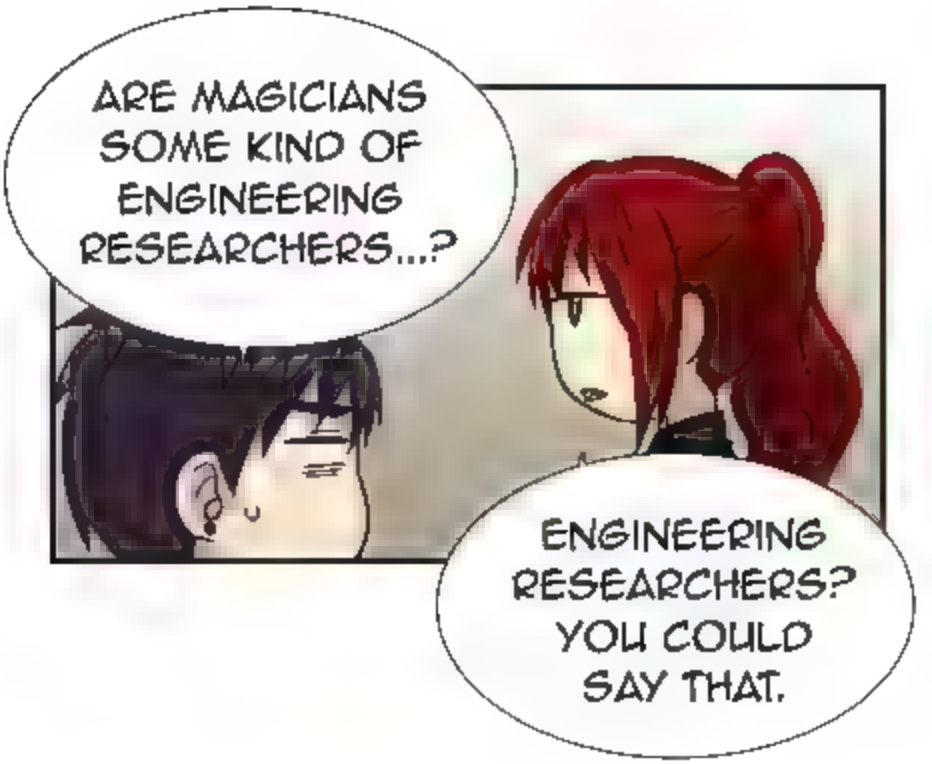
DIDN'T YOU HEAR ABOUT THIS KIND OF THING WHEN YOU WERE UNDER THE PROTECTION OF THE CHEON BU CLAN?
HM? N-NO.
THEY MUST HAVE HAD THEIR REASONS.

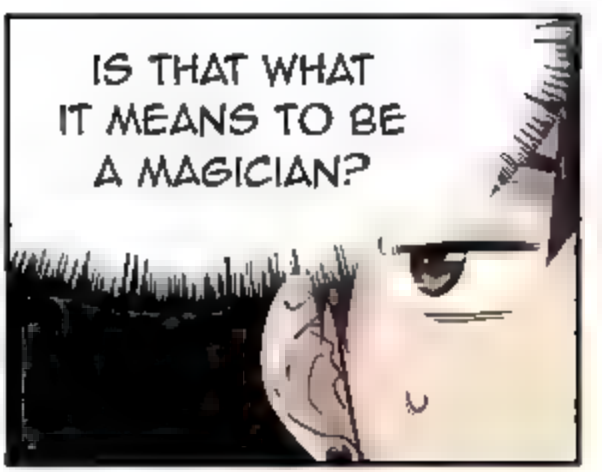
ANYWAY...
ARE PREZ'S ABILITIES CLASSIFIED AS A MAGICIAN?
YEAH, I HELPED WITH HER AWAKENING.

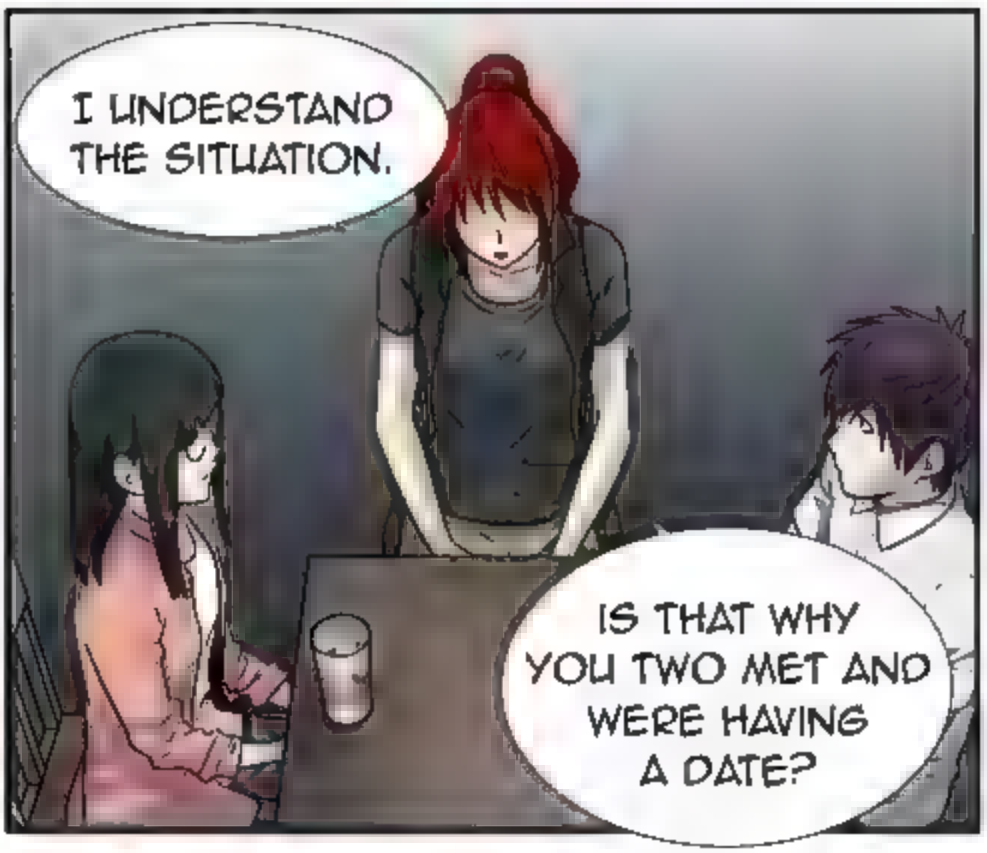

YOU DID, JIHAN?
THEN SHE'S PROBABLY A BIT UNSTABLE.
HUH? WHY?

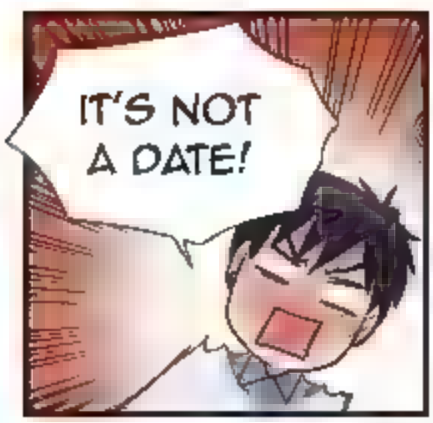
YOU MAY BE A GREAT BATTLE MAGICIAN....
BUT ISN'T THAT BECAUSE OF YOUR POWER AS "THE GAMER?"

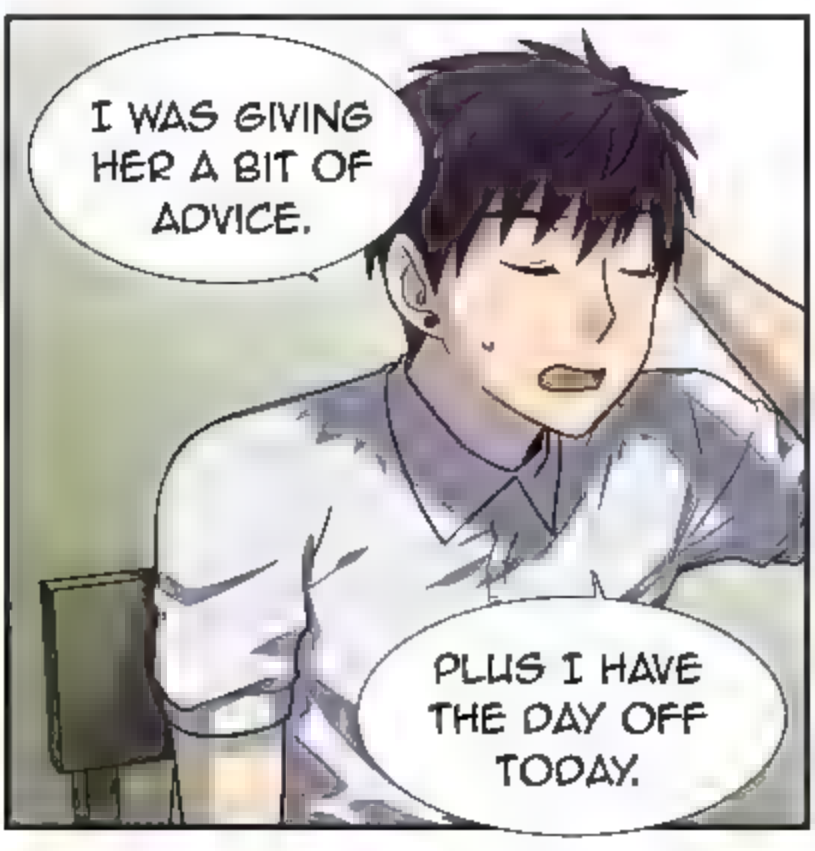
MOST MAGICIANS STUDY SPELLS THEMSELVES,
OR THEY BUY SPELL BOOKS AND MASTER THE SPELLS IN THEM.
I'VE HEARD THAT YOU NEED A FLEXIBLE MIND.


ARE MAGICIANS SOME KIND OF ENGINEERING RESEARCHERS...?
ENGINEERING RESEARCHERS? YOU COULD SAY THAT.


IS THAT WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A MAGICIAN?

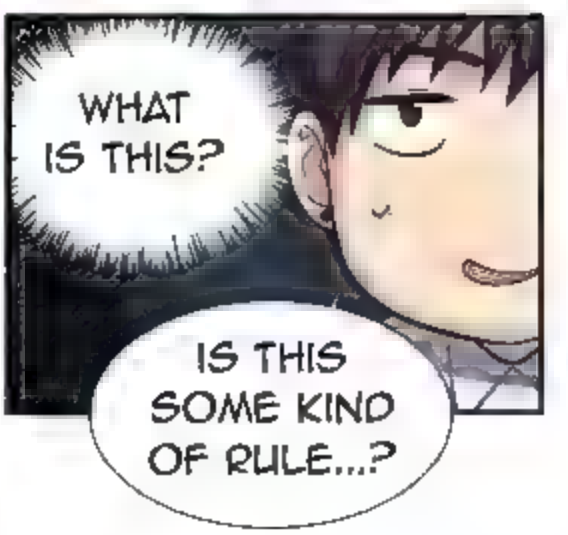

I UNDERSTAND THE SITUATION.
IS THAT WHY YOU TWO MET AND WERE HAVING A DATE?

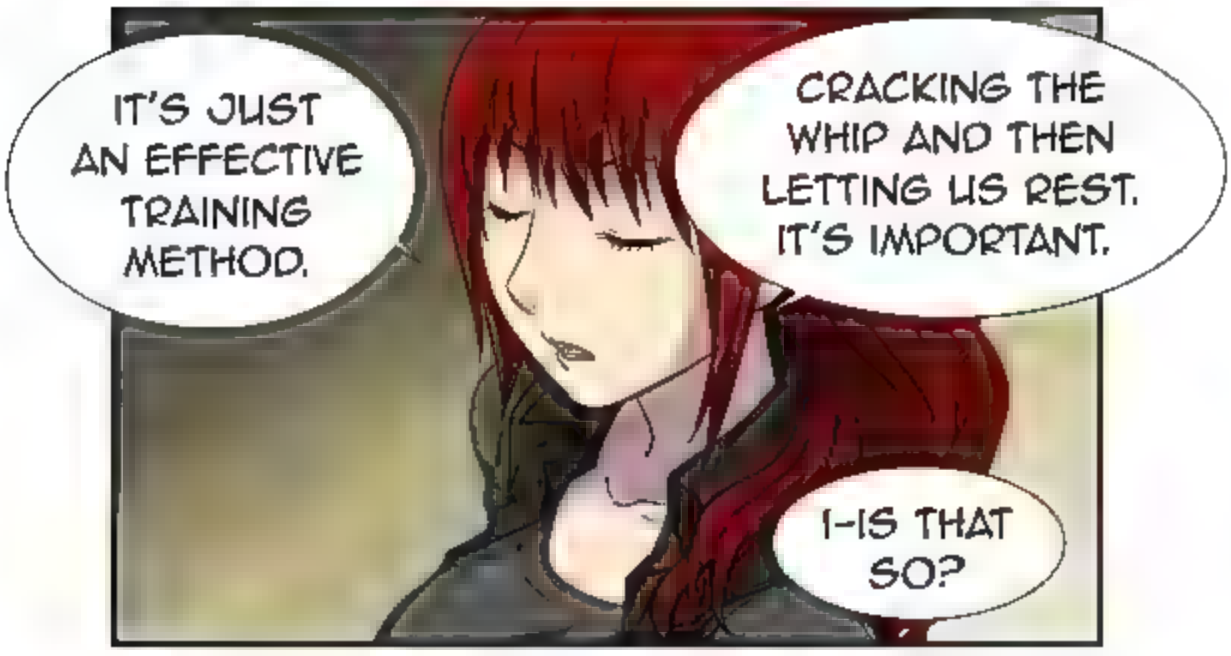

IT'S NOT A DATE!


I WAS GIVING HER A BIT OF ADVICE.
PLUS I HAVE THE DAY OFF TODAY.

A DAY OFF DURING TRAINING? YOU TOO?
HUH?

YOU'RE OFF TOO?
YEAH.

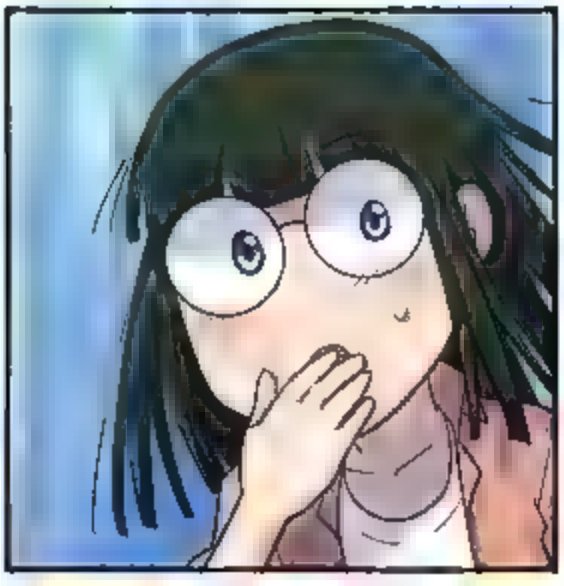

WHAT IS THIS?
IS THIS SOME KIND OF RULE...?


IT'S JUST AN EFFECTIVE TRAINING METHOD.
CRACKING THE WHIP AND THEN LETTING US REST. IT'S IMPORTANT.
I-IS THAT SO?

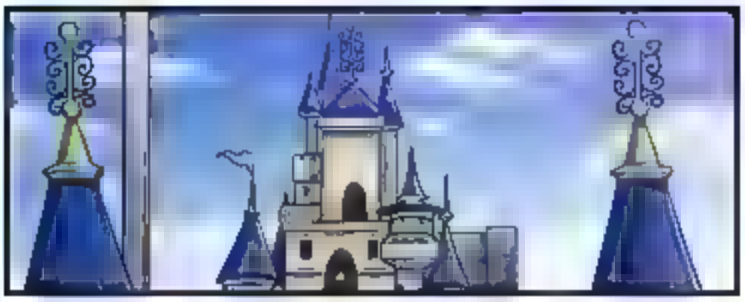
SO YOU HAVE TODAY OFF?
YEAH.

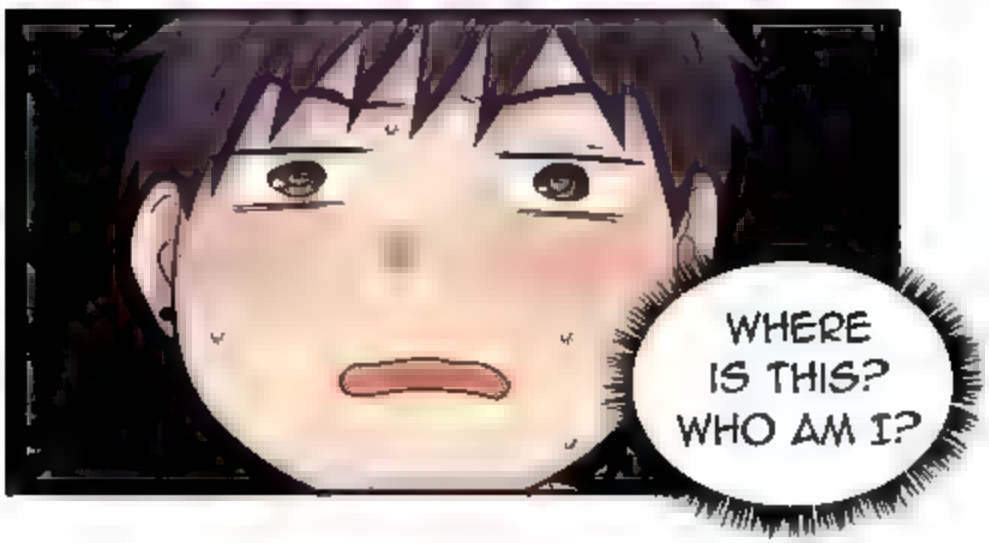
THAT WORKS OUT WELL.
W-WHAT DOES?

COME AND HANG OUT WITH ME.



THE GAMER

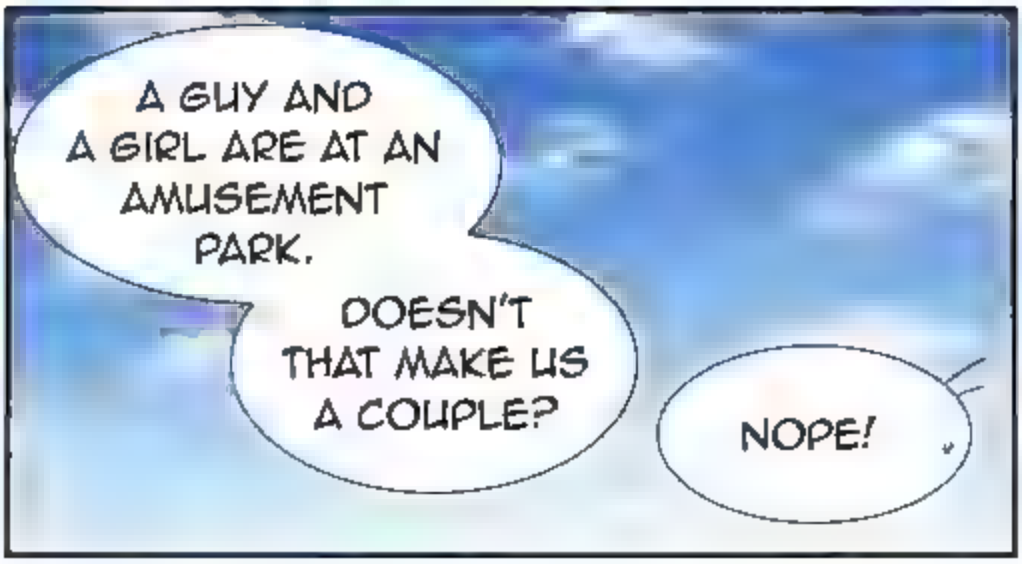



WHERE IS THIS? WHO AM I?

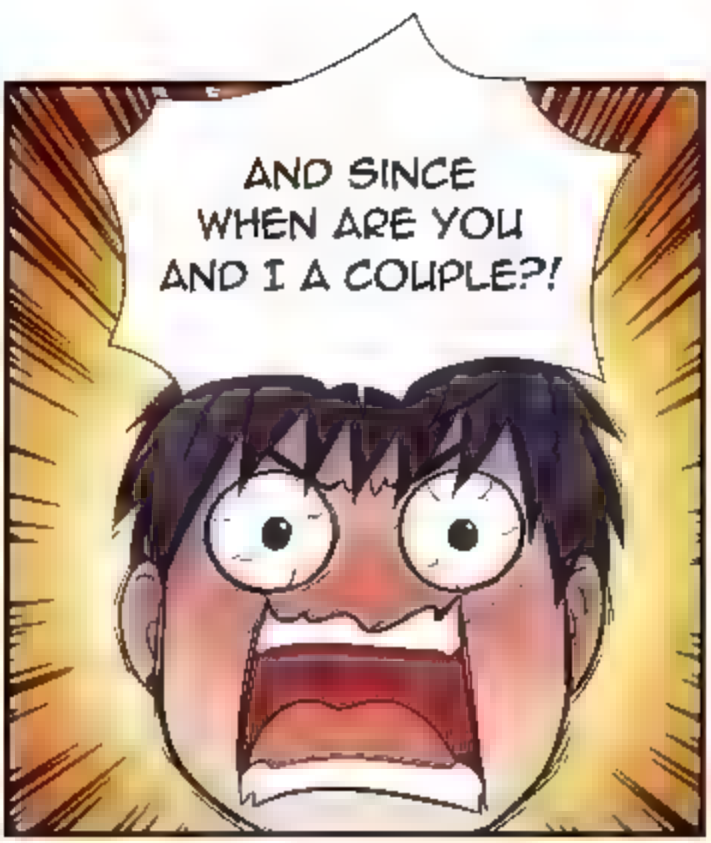
WHAT IS SHE DOING?
IT'S HARD TO WALK AROUND LIKE THIS.
SSK
THEN WHY DON'T WE JUST NOT DO IT?!

I'VE HEARD THAT THIS IS WHAT COUPLES DO.

UH... WHY DO WE ABSOLUTELY HAVE TO ACT LIKE A COUPLE?


A GUY AND A GIRL ARE AT AN AMUSEMENT PARK.
DOESN'T THAT MAKE US A COUPLE?
NOPE!

THERE ARE LOTS OF GUYS AND GIRLS WHO JUST COME TO HAVE FUN!


AND SINCE WHEN ARE YOU AND I A COUPLE?!

WE MAY NOT BE A COUPLE,
BUT CAN'T WE BE A COUPLE FOR TODAY?
THEN LET'S COUNT THIS AS REPAYMENT FOR THE OTHER DAY.

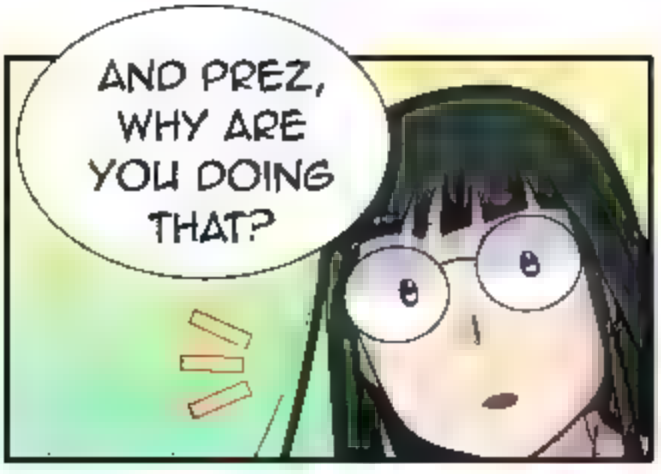
I WASN'T PLANNING ON ASKING YOU TO REPAY ME ANYWAY,

BUT IS THIS ALL YOU MEANT BY "I'LL DO ANYTHING?!"

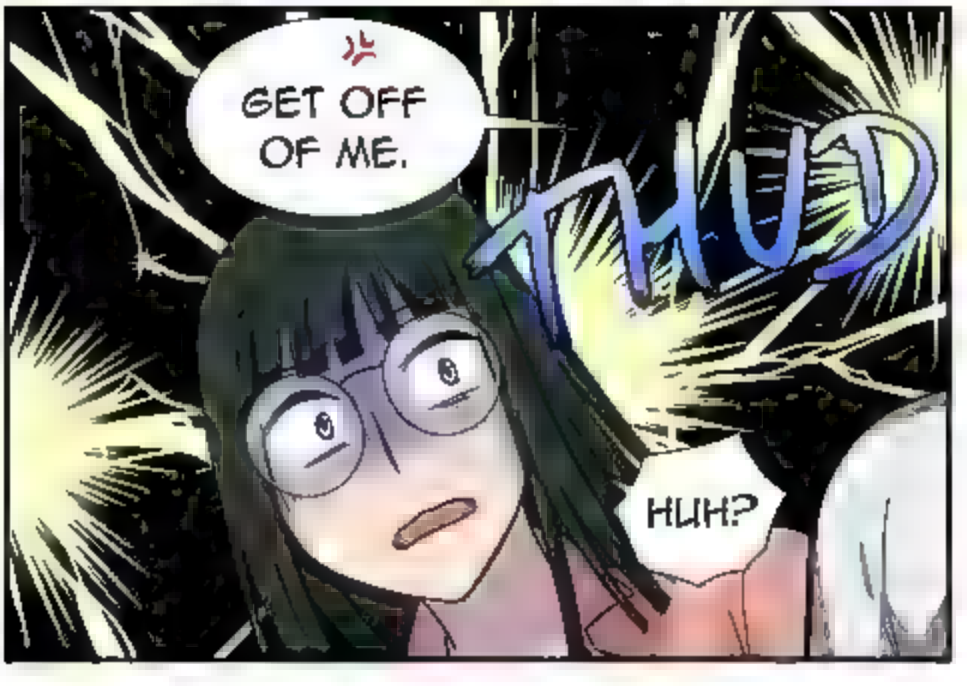
WAIT, THEN WERE YOU EXPECTING SOMETHING MORE...?

F-FINE.
FINE?

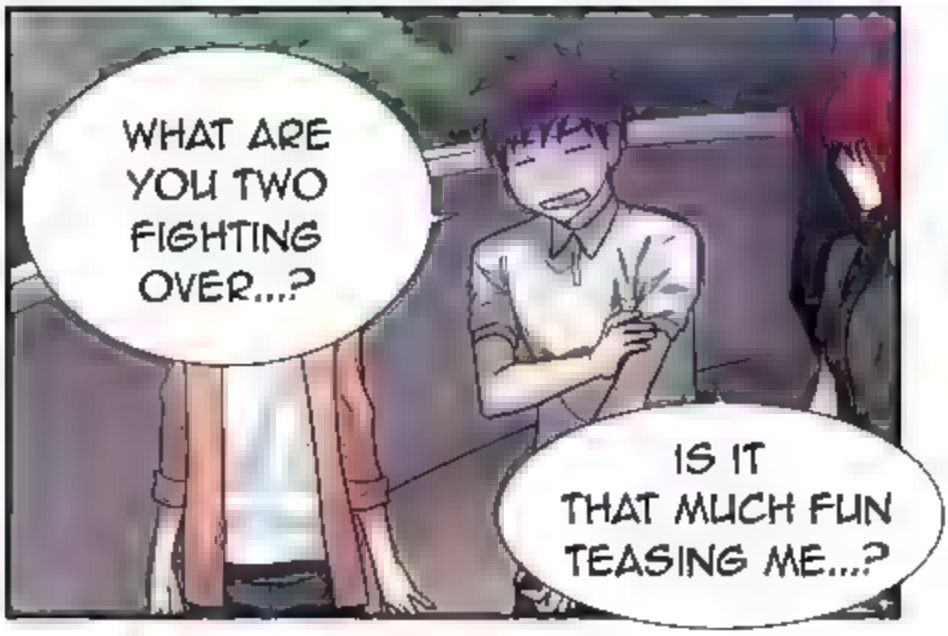
WHAT DO YOU MEAN "FINE," YOU FOX?!
JUMP


AND PREZ, WHY ARE YOU DOING THAT?

HM? WELL, SINCE SHIYEON'S DOING IT...
BUT WHY ARE YOU COPYING HER?
I-I'M NOT SURE. I JUST FELT LIKE I SHOULD.


GET OFF OF ME.
THUD
HUH?

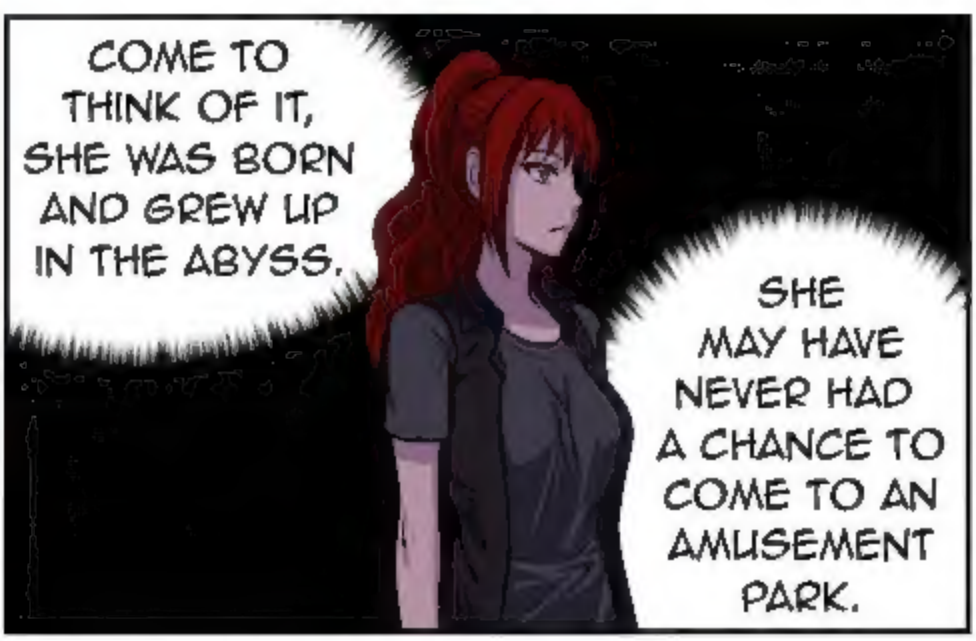
PFF
HAH, PREZ, LOOKS LIKE I'M THE WINNER IN THIS FIGHT.
YOU TOO GET OFF OF ME!
TSK


WHAT ARE YOU TWO FIGHTING OVER...?
IS IT THAT MUCH FUN TEASING ME...?

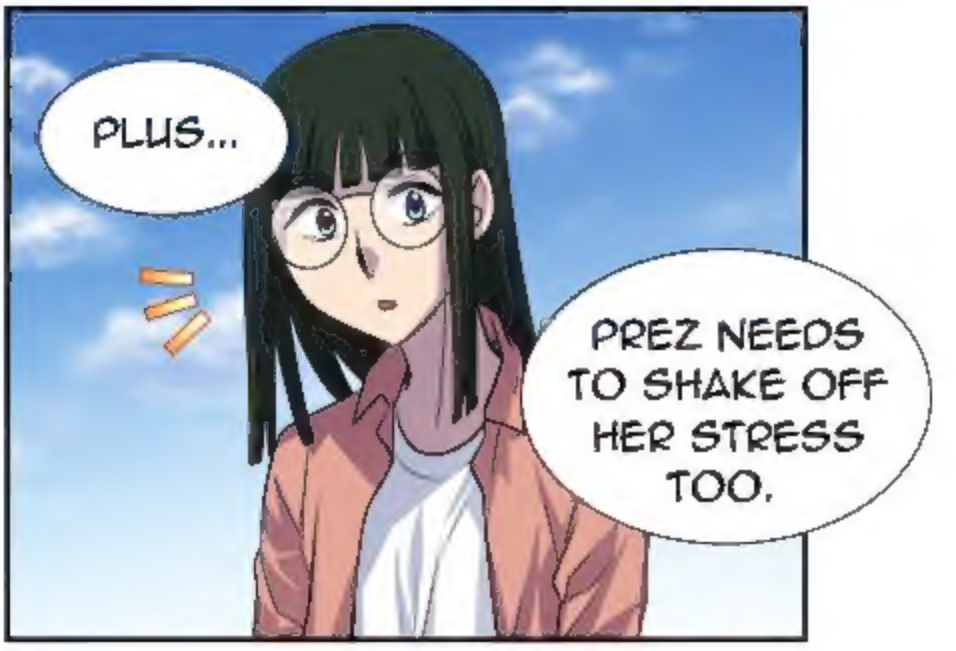
ANYWAY SHIYEON, YOU'RE THE ONE WHO SUGGESTED WE COME HERE. SHOULD WE GET ON A RIDE OR SOMETHING?
OF COURSE.

I'M NOT AGAINST THE IDEA OF HANGING OUT...
BUT WILL IT EVEN BE FUN?

THAT'S WHY WE'RE TRYING IT.
IT'S MY FIRST TIME.


COME TO THINK OF IT, SHE WAS BORN AND GREW UP IN THE ABYSS.
SHE MAY HAVE NEVER HAD A CHANCE TO COME TO AN AMUSEMENT PARK.

WHEW.... WELL, ALRIGHT. SINCE TODAY'S MY DAY OFF ANYWAY.


PLUS...
PREZ NEEDS TO SHAKE OFF HER STRESS TOO.

TAP

SPIN

NOW, I,
THE UNWORTHY
JIHAN HAN, WILL
GUIDE YOU LADIES
AROUND TODAY.

LINE Webtoon